

MINUTES

SHELBY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD JUNE 16, 2009

AGRICENTER INTERNATIONAL
TIME: 8:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pam Beasley, Secretary
Rick Phillips, Member
Albert Hutcheson, Member
Warren Funk, Member
Lauren Taylor, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Justin Mitchell, Chairman
Tonya Meeks, Member
Alycia Carter-Peoples, Member
Maurice Butler, Member

Kathy Kirk-Johnson, Board Attorney

ADMINISTRATION

Lee Hinson, Public Works Division
Tom Moss, Lank Bank
Rick Steig, GIS Coordinator

VISITORS

John Jackson, JPA, Inc.
David Thompson, Bartlett Parks
Larry Smith, Park Services

STAFF

Bill Cook, Executive Director
Yvonne Griggs, Secretary

The Secretary, Pam Beasley called the meeting to order. The minutes from June 16th were approved. A motion was made by Rick Phillips and seconded by Warren Funk to approve the minutes. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Review of final plan for Woodstock Park – Tom Moss / John Jackson, JPA, Inc.

John Jackson presented the final master plan for the New Woodstock Park for Board for approval. The final master plan was created by incorporating Concept "A" and Concept "B" from the preliminary master plan along with comments from the Board and the community.

Phase One includes building the main road entrance with thirty parking spaces; one football field, one softball field, one-half tot lot and the actual pedestrian circulation system that fits within Phase One, and one pavilion. Plans include keeping the main point of egress/ingress off of Rust Avenue. The community would like for the ball field to be fenced, but that will be determined by the budget. Restrooms will be built in a future phase. Portable toilets will be used for the present time. There is additional parking, restrooms and a storage area available at the school which is a distance from the park. Special permission from the principal is required to use these areas. Phase One will have approximately 20 picnic sites and open space for play. Phase One estimated cost is \$400,000. Phase One and Two is expected to cost approximately \$950,000.

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A motion was made by Albert Hutcheson and seconded by Lauren Taylor to accept the final master plan for the Woodstock Park. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Transfer of Western Road Park property to City of Memphis Division of Park Services – Tom Moss

The Conservation Board approved the transfer of 9.83 acres of property known as Western Road Park property to the City of Memphis Division of Park Services. The transfer will be in the form of an Inter-Agency Agreement with a provision stating that the property will revert back to Shelby County if it ceases to be used for park purposes. The park has a parking lot, play equipment and a walking trail which has been maintained by Park Services.

A motion was made by Pam Beasley and seconded by Lauren Taylor to approve the execution of the Inter-Agency Agreement, the bill of sale and quit claim deed along with the reversionary clause to transfer Western Road Park property to the City of Memphis Division of Park Services. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Transfer of Ross Road Park to Memphis City Schools – Tom Moss

The Conservation Board approved the relinquishment of 8.76 acres of property known as Ross Road Park for the use and benefit of Conservation Board purposes, to allow the County to propose to the County Commission the transfer of the property to Memphis City Schools. Memphis City Schools has used this property for a number of years.

Rick Phillips made a motion for the Conservation Board to relinquish the Conservation Board's use and benefit of Ross Road Park Property. Albert Hutcheson seconded the motion. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

The motion was amended to require County Administration to include in its proposal that should Memphis City Schools build on the property, that the Board would encourage them to consider using "green" building standards. Rick Phillips made the motion and Albert Hutcheson seconded. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

For future purposes, Rick Phillips requested staff to provide written communication to assist with the proper language to use when making a motion.

Update of legislation regarding guns in county parks – Lee Hinson

The Tennessee Legislation passed the gun bill to allow permit holders who are authorized to carry weapons into state, national as well as local/county and city parks in the State of Tennessee. The bill contains authorization for local governments, counties

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and cities to "opt out", and continue with their ban or create a ban to carry a weapon into city and local parks. This gun legislation will go into effect September 1st as far as city and county parks are concern. It goes into effect on July 17th in relation to state and national parks in the State of Tennessee.

The Governor's recommendation is for the board to recommend to the County Commission that we agree to "opt out" of the statutory authorization to carry weapons into county parks. The primary reason is because of the large concentration of children and families within those parks and extensively the great likelihood for something to go wrong.

Staff is requesting that the board make a recommendation to the County Commission to band weapons within all county owned parkland in Shelby County which includes public parks, wildlife management area, natural area, historic park, nature trail, camp ground, forest greenway, waterway or any other similar public place that is owned or operated by state, county or municipality. Lee Hinson stated that he wants to be as broad as possible in our definition of what we think parkland can be and let the State tell us where it does not apply.

Albert Hutcheson voiced that in his opinion the state has passed a bad piece of legislation. He went on to say that this is a very important business we are conducting today and there are several members not present. Mr. Hutcheson said he feels that it has ramifications far and beyond the responsibility of the Conservation Board.

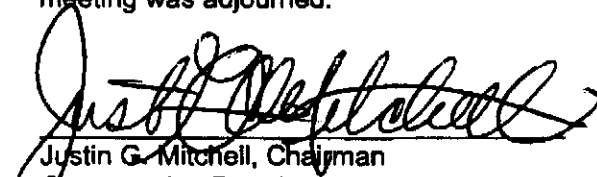
Rick Phillips made a motion for the Board to accept staff recommendation regarding the handgun legislation. Lauren Taylor seconded the motion. The Board will further request an opinion from the County Attorney to define an active park and whether a vacant piece of land should also be included in the definition of an active park. Kathy Johnson stated that her recommendation is to utilize the same language that is used in the Statute for consistency. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.


Update on legal matters – Kathy Kirk-Johnson – All legal issues have been discussed regarding the transfer of the parks and the gun bill issue.

Director's Report

The parking lot at Orgill Golf Course is almost completed and several golf cart paths are scheduled to be repaired. Hopefully, within the next three weeks the project will be finished.

There being no further business to come before the board at the present time, the meeting was adjourned.


Justin G. Mitchell, Chairman
Conservation Board


Pam Beasley, Secretary
Conservation Board

**AGENDA
SHELBY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD**

AUGUST 18, 2009

8:00 A.M.

**AGRICENTER INTERNATIONAL
7777 WALNUT GROVE ROAD
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

- I. Approval of the Minutes from June 16, 2009.
- II. Presentation – 2009 Ethics Ordinance Training – George Aldrich, Workforce Development Manager, Human Resources, Shelby County Government.
- III. Update on property matters – Tom Moss, Land Bank.
- IV. Update on legal matters – Kathy Kirk-Johnson, Board Attorney.
- V. Director's Report – Bill Cook.

**The next regularly scheduled meeting date is
Tuesday, November 17, 2009**

SHELBY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
CONSERVATION BOARD
1075 MULLINS STATION ROAD, RM. C-139
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38134
PHONE (901) 379-7007 FAX (901) 379-7874

TO: SHELBY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Justin G. Mitchell
Pamela D. Beasley
James A. Hutcheson
Richard D. Phillips, Sr.
Warren C. Funk
Tonya M. Meeks
Alycia Carter-Peoples
Maurice Butler
Lauren Taylor

FROM: Bill Cook, Deputy Administrator/*Bill Cook*
Shelby County Conservation Board

DATE: 06-12-09

RE: Conservation Board Meeting

Please be advised that the regularly scheduled meeting of the Shelby County Conservation Board will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at 8:00 a.m., at AgriCenter International, 7777 Walnut Grove Road. The meeting will be in the Board Room, located on the main floor.

A tentative agenda and the minutes from the May 19th, regular meeting are attached. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (901) 379-7007.

Cc:

Mayor A C Wharton, Jr.
James F. Huntzicker, CAO
Ted Fox, Public Works Director
Melvin Booth, Deputy Director, Public Works
Lee Hinson, Public Works
Rhonda Turner, Public Affairs
Tara Tate, Public Affairs
Janie Scruggs, Public Works
Kathy Kirk-Johnson, Board Attorney
Tom Moss, Land Bank
Steve Summerall, County Commission
Mayor Richard Hodges
Mayor Russell Wiseman
Mayor Scott Carmichael
Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy
Mayor Keith McDonald
Mayor Willie Herenton
Mayor Stan Joyner

Commissioner Mike Carpenter
Commissioner Mike Ritz
Commissioner Joyce Avery
Commissioner Matt Kuhn
Commissioner George Flinn
TN Commissioner James H. Fyke
David Thompson, Bartlett Parks
Rick Copeland, Planning & Development
Cynthia Buchanan, Park Services
Commercial Appeal
Millington Star
The Independent
Collierville Herald
Germantown News
Bartlett Express
Daily News
North Shelby Times

Tentative

AGENDA
SHELBY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

JUNE 16, 2009

8:00 A.M.

AGRICENTER INTERNATIONAL
7777 WALNUT GROVE ROAD
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

- I. Approval of the Minutes from May 19, 2009.
- II. Review of final plan for Woodstock Park – Tom Moss.
- III. Transfer of Ross Road Park to Memphis City Schools – Tom Moss.
- IV. Transfer of Western Road Park property to City of Memphis Division of Park Services – Tom Moss.
- V. Update on legislation regarding guns in county parks – Lee Hinson.
- VI. Legal updates – Kathy Kirk-Johnson, Board Attorney.
- VII. Director's Report – Bill Cook.

The next board meeting date is
July 21st, 2009

MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 2008
SHELBY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

8:00 A.M.
Roads & Bridges Training Room

MEMBERS PRESENT

John F. McCormick, Chairman
Marcus Grandberry, Secretary
Justin Mitchell, Member

Christy Kinard, Board Attorney

VISITORS

Lee Hinson, Public Works
Rick Steig, GIS Coordinator
Bill Goss, Land Bank
Tom Moss, Land Bank
David Thompson, Bartlett Parks
Tom Bailey, Commercial Appeal
Timothy Ballard, Memphis Soccer Education
Vicki Dillner, Support Services

The meeting was called to order and all members were present. A motion was made by Justin Mitchell and seconded by Marcus Grandberry to approve the minutes from May 21, 2008. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

This is the first board meeting since the passing of Mr. W.S. "Babe" Howard. The Chairman expressed that Mr. Howard will be greatly missed.

Request for proposal for Woodstock Park – Bill Cook:

The Shelby County Purchasing Department sent out Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to develop a master plan for the New Woodstock Park. The Chairman asked the board to give their recommendations regarding what should be built in the park. He also suggested that the board meet with area businesses to get their input and inquire about possible funding to help develop the park. Bill Goss reminded the board of the soil retention provision stated in the contract that allows the seller to obtain a certain amount of dirt before construction can begin. The Chairman asked Mr. Goss to move forward in resolving the soil retention issue. Mr. McCormick said he is glad to know that something is finally starting to happen to get this park developed. This was a long time goal of Mr. Howard who was a voice for the residents in that community. Request for Proposals are due back in Purchasing on August 15th.

Discussion-Approval – Lowrance Road Park Agreement with the Memphis Soccer Education – Timothy Ballard, President, Memphis Soccer Education, Inc.:

The goal of the Memphis Soccer Education Incorporated is to promote the development of youth soccer in Memphis and Shelby County for kids ranging from ages six to eighteen.

Memphis Soccer Education, Inc. works closely with the Southwind Titans, a group who utilizes the park for football. The Titans uses the fields from late July to November, while Memphis Soccer Education will use the fields year round. The park will continue to be open to all citizens of Memphis and Shelby County. Any alterations to the park will require board approval. The County has similar agreements at Bolton and Floyd Bryan Parks. A motion was made by Justin Mitchell and seconded by Marcus Grandberry, to approve the Management and Operational Agreement for Lowrance Road Park to the Memphis Soccer Education, Inc. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Ballard thanked Mr. Cook and Ms. Griggs for their assistance during this transition. Mr. Cook also thanked Mr. Lee Hinson for his assistance.

Discussion-Approval – Rescinding Resolution from City of Memphis Park Transfers – Tom Moss, Land Bank:

Justin Mitchell made a motion for the Conservation Board to rescind the action on seven park transfers, to the City of Memphis that the board approved unanimously back on October 18, 2006, for an Inter-agency Cooperation Contract with the City of Memphis Division of Park Services.

A new motion was made by Justin Mitchell to transfer nine parcels to the respective agencies being either Memphis City Schools or the City of Memphis Division of Park Services as follows:

A motion was made for the purpose of transferring to Memphis City Schools the following parks: Gardenvue, Fairley Road, Raleigh Egypt and Ross Road. The board relinquishes its rights back to Shelby County and for Shelby County to transfer these properties to Memphis City Schools for educational use. (This agreement is consistent with the agreement used for the Kate Bond property).

A motion was made for the purpose of transferring the following properties to the City of Memphis Division of Park Services: Carver Heights, Raleigh Bartlett Meadows, Raleigh Bartlett Meadows 5 & 6, Westwood and Raleigh Egypt, using the Inter-Agency Cooperative Contract with the City of Memphis.

Marcus Grandberry seconded the motion. All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Report on Legal Matters – Christy Kinard:

There were no new legal matters to bring before the board at the present time.

Director's Report – Bill Cook:

The County has taken over the daily operation of the clubhouse at Orgill Golf Course. The County will evaluate the business and make a decision on how they want to proceed. Mr. Cook is hopeful that the clubhouse will get a facelift to help improve play at the course. Play has been fairly good.

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Payment of the bills to the City of Memphis Division of Park Services for the months of May, June, and July, 2008:

A motion was made by Justin Mitchell and seconded by Marcus Grandberry to approve the payment of the bills to the City of Memphis Division of Park Services as follows:

May 2008 - \$8,549.97
June 2008 - \$9,074.12
July 2008 - \$9,363.06

All members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board at the present time, the meeting adjourned.

John F. McCormick, Chairman
Conservation Board

Marcus Grandberry, Secretary
Conservation Board